



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Council on Postsecondary Education
OFFICE OF THE POSTSECONDARY COMMISSIONER
560 Jefferson Boulevard Suite 100
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886-1304

Enclosure 7a
April 14, 2016

Barbara S. Cottam
Chair

TO: Members of the Council on Postsecondary Education

Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Jim Purcell, Ed.D, Commissioner for Postsecondary Education

Daniel P. McConaghy
Chair

DATE: April 4, 2016

Amy Beretta, Esq.

RE: Discussion of the Memorandum of Agreement for dual and concurrent enrollment for 2016-2017 and update on grades for fall 2015

Colleen A. Callahan, Ed.D.

Background

Karin Forbes

Jo Eva Gaines

Marta V. Martinez

Lawrence Purtill

Joyce L. Stevos, Ph.D.

The dual enrollment regulations, approved by the Board of Education on April 27, 2015, stipulate that: *Concurrent enrollment course offerings and course costs shall be annually established by postsecondary institutions and approved by the Board of Education.* The concurrent course list for the 2016-2017 academic year was presented for discussion at the February 24, 2016 meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education and was approved at the March 2, 2016 meeting of the Board of Education. At that time, decisions on the cost of courses for the next academic year and the Memorandum of Agreement were not finalized.

Council on Postsecondary Education

William Foulkes
Chair

Memorandum of Agreement for 2016-2017

Michael Bernstein

Dennis Duffy, Esq.

The Honorable Thomas Izzo

The Memorandum of Agreement has been reviewed by the staff of the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC) with consultation from the public postsecondary institutions. It has been determined that there will be no changes to the Memorandum of Agreement for 2016-2017. The cost of concurrent enrollment courses will remain at \$65 per credit; the tuition for dual enrollment courses will remain the same as would be paid by any student attending CCRI, RIC, or URI.

Judy Ouellette

Kerry I. Rafanelli, Esq.

John J. Smith, Jr.

As required by the dual enrollment regulations, the information on the cost of concurrent enrollment courses is being presented to the Council for discussion at the April 14 meeting prior to further discussion and consideration of a vote at the next Board of Education meeting.

Dr. Jeffery A. Williams

Information on dual and concurrent enrollment in fall 2015

At a previous meeting, members of the Council expressed interest in the grades earned for fall 2015 as an indicator of the success of the program in meeting the goals for dual enrollment as outlined in the regulations: to provide high school students access to rigorous academic enrichment, improve college readiness, encourage college degree attainment, and increase the cost-effectiveness in earning a postsecondary degree.

Grades

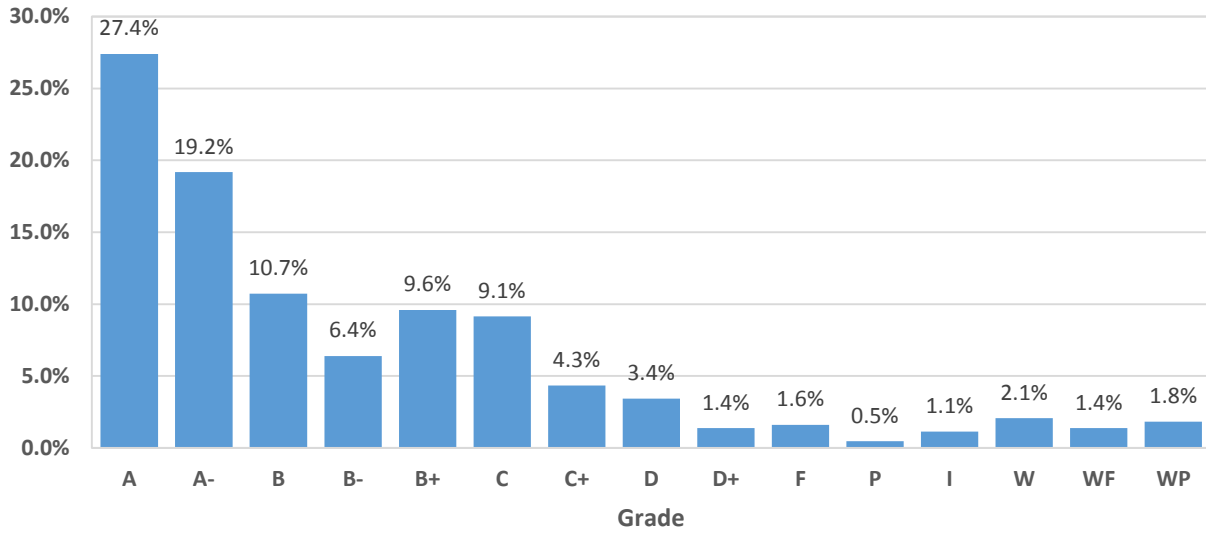
In considering the outcomes from fall 2015, it is helpful to remember that dual enrollment is used as the generic term to refer to students being enrolled simultaneously in college courses while they are enrolled in secondary school. Dual Enrollment programs enable students to earn credit for courses that meet high school requirements and earn college credit. The courses may be offered at the high school, at the college campus or online and are taught by college faculty or certified high school teachers. In Rhode Island, students have the ability to participate in dual and concurrent enrollment; currently, the majority of students participate through concurrent enrollment.

- Dual enrollment: Students are enrolled in a local high school and also enrolled full or part-time at CCRI, RIC or URI. These courses are taken on campus or online.
- Concurrent Enrollment: Students are taking college courses in their high school that count for high school requirements. The college courses are taught by high school teachers who meet the qualifications established by the postsecondary institution granting credit. The public postsecondary institutions work with the teachers, approve the text and syllabus, and provide mentoring and support.

Please note that grade information is available for dual enrollment and concurrent courses that were taught during fall 2015 and not for courses taught as yearlong courses; the grades for yearlong courses will be reported at the end of the spring semester. The data shows that the vast majority of students who enrolled in a dual or concurrent enrollment course completed the course with a passing grade and that few students either failed or withdrew from their courses. As the charts below illustrate:

- 86.8% of dual enrollment courses and 95.5% of concurrent enrollment courses were passed with a C or better.
- 6.8% of dual enrollment and 2.6% of concurrent courses were reported to have withdrawals or a failing grade.
- Although a small amount of variation exists among the grades awarded in dual and concurrent courses, the overall distribution pattern is similar between the two program types.

**Rhode Island Public Institutions of Higher Education
Distribution of Grades Earned in Dual Enrollment Courses
Fall 2015**



**Rhode Island Public Institutions of Higher Education
Distribution of Grades Earned in Concurrent Enrollment Courses
Fall 2015**

